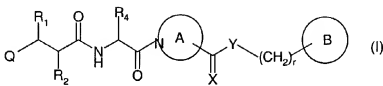


1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (II), or a pharmaceutical or veterinary acceptable salt, hydrate or solvate thereof



wherein:

Q represents a radical of formula  $-N(OH)CH(=O)$  or formula  $-C(=O)NH(OH)$ ;

$R_1$  represents hydrogen, methyl or trifluoromethyl or, except when Q is a radical of formula  $-N(OH)CH(=O)$ , a hydroxy, halo or amino group;

$R_2$  represents a group  $R_{10}-(D)_n-(ALK)_m$  wherein

$R_{10}$  represents hydrogen, or an optionally substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl group and

ALK represents a straight or branched divalent  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylene,  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenylene, or  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynylene radical, and may be interrupted by one or more non-adjacent  $-NH-$ ,  $-O-$  or  $-S-$  linkages,

D represents  $-NH-$ ,  $-O-$  or  $-S-$ , and

m and n are independently 0 or 1;

$R_4$  represents the side chain of a natural or non-natural alpha amino acid;

ring A represents an optionally substituted monocyclic heterocyclic ring containing from 5 to 7 ring atoms, one of which is the nitrogen atom shown, the remaining ring atoms being selected from compatible combinations of carbon, oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

X is oxygen or sulfur;

Y is oxygen, sulfur or -NH-;

$R_1$  is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and

ring B represents an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein  $R_1$  is hydrogen.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein  $R_2$  is:

optionally substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkynyl or cycloalkyl;

phenyl ( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)-, phenyl ( $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkenyl)- or phenyl ( $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the phenyl ring;

cycloalkyl ( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)-, cycloalkyl ( $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkenyl)- or cycloalkyl ( $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the cycloalkyl ring;

heterocyclyl ( $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl)-, heterocyclyl ( $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkenyl)- or heterocyclyl ( $C_3$ - $C_6$  alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the heterocyclyl ring; or

$CH_3(CH_2)_pO(CH_2)_q-$  or  $CH_3(CH_2)_pS(CH_2)_q-$ , wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and q is 1, 2 or 3.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is methyl, ethyl, n-or iso-propyl, n- or iso-butyl, n-pentyl, iso-pentyl 3-methyl-but-1-yl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-acetyl, n-octyl, methylsulfanylethyl, ethylsulfanylmethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 2-ethoxymethyl, 3-hydroxypropyl, allyl, 3-phenylprop-3-en-1-yl, prop-2-yn-1-yl, 3- phenylprop-2-yn-1-yl, 3-(2-chlorophenyl)prop-2-yn-1-yl, but-2-yn-1-yl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclopentylpropyl, cyclohexylmethyl, cyclohexylethyl, cyclohexylpropyl, furan-2-ylmethyl, furan-3-methyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, piperidinylmethyl, phenylpropyl, 4- chlorophenylpropyl, 4-methylphenylpropyl, 4-methoxyphenylpropyl, benzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-methylbenzyl, or 4-methoxybenzyl.
5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl-, cycloalkylmethyl-, (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl-S-(C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl-, or (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl-O-(C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>3</sub>) alkyl-.
6. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sub>4</sub> is:

the characterising group of a natural  $\alpha$  amino acid or 4-methoxyphenylmethyl, in which any functional group may be protected, any amino group may be acylated and any carboxyl group present may be amidated; or

a group-[Alk]<sub>n</sub>R<sub>9</sub> where Alk is a (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>6</sub>) alkylene or (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenylene group optionally interrupted by one or more -O-, or -S- atoms or -N(R<sub>12</sub>)- groups [where R<sub>12</sub> is a hydrogen atom or a (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl group], n is 0 or 1, and R<sub>9</sub> is hydrogen or an optionally substituted phenyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl group or (only when n is 1) R<sub>9</sub> may additionally be hydroxy, mercapto, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylthio, amino, halo, trifluoromethyl, nitro, -COOH, -CONH<sub>2</sub>, -COOR<sup>A</sup>, -NHCOR<sup>A</sup>, -CONHR<sup>A</sup>, -NHR<sup>A</sup>, -NRAR<sup>B</sup>, or -CONR<sup>A</sup>R<sup>B</sup> wherein R<sup>A</sup> and R<sup>B</sup> are independently a (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group; or

a benzyl group substituted in the phenyl ring by a group of formula -OCH<sub>2</sub>COR<sub>8</sub> where R<sub>8</sub> is hydroxyl, amino, (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>6</sub>) alkoxy, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino, di( (C<sub>1</sub>-

(C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl)amino, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino; or

a heterocyclic(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group, either being unsubstituted or mono- or di-substituted in the heterocyclic ring with halo, nitro, carboxy,(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkoxy, cyano, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkanoyl, trifluoromethyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, hydroxy, formyl, amino,(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino, di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylamino, mercapto, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylthio, hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, mercapto(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkylphenylmethyl; or

a group-CR<sub>a</sub>R<sub>b</sub>R<sub>c</sub> in which:

each of R<sub>a</sub>, R<sub>b</sub> and R<sub>c</sub> is independently hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkynyl, phenyl (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl; or

R<sub>c</sub> is hydrogen and R<sub>a</sub> and R<sub>b</sub> are independently phenyl or heteroaryl such as pyridyl; or

R<sub>c</sub> is hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkynyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, or (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>)cycloalkyl, and R<sub>a</sub> and R<sub>b</sub> together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a 3 to 8 membered cycloalkyl or a 5-to 6-membered heterocyclic ring; or

R<sub>a</sub>, R<sub>b</sub> and R<sub>c</sub> together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a tricyclic ring; or

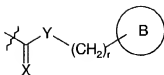
R<sub>a</sub> and R<sub>b</sub> are each independently (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkynyl, phenyl(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, or a group as defined for R<sub>c</sub> below other than hydrogen, or R<sub>a</sub> and R<sub>b</sub> together with the carbon atom to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl or heterocyclic ring, and R<sub>c</sub> is hydrogen, -OH, -SH, halogen, -CN, -CO<sub>2</sub>H, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)perfluoroalkyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>OH, -CO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, -O(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, -O(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkenyl, -S(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, -SO(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl, -S(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)

alkenyl,  $-\text{SO}(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)$  alkenyl,  $-\text{SO}_2(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)$  alkenyl or a group-Q-W wherein Q represents a bond or -O-, -S-, -SO- or  $-\text{SO}_2-$  and W represents a phenyl, phenylalkyl,  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8)$  cycloalkyl,  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8)$  cycloalkylalkyl,  $(\text{C}_4\text{-C}_8)$  cycloalkenyl,  $(\text{C}_4\text{-C}_8)$  cycloalkenylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl group, which group W may optionally be substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from, hydroxyl, halogen, -CN,  $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $-\text{CO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $-\text{CONH}_2$ ,  $-\text{CONH}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $-\text{CONH}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{alkyl})_2$ , -CHO,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)$ perfluoroalkyl,  $-\text{O}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $-\text{S}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $-\text{SO}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $-\text{SO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NH}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $\text{N}((\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl})_2$ ,  $-\text{NHCO}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)$ alkyl,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)$ alkenyl,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)$ alkynyl,  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8)$  cycloalkyl,  $(\text{C}_4\text{-C}_8)$  cycloalkenyl, phenyl or benzyl.

7. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein  $\text{R}_4$  is methyl, ethyl, benzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-hydroxybenzyl, phenyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, pyridine-3-ylmethyl, tert-butoxymethyl, naphthylmethyl, iso-butyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, 1-benzylthio-1-methylethyl, 1-methylthio-1-methylethyl, 1-mercapto-1-methylethyl, 1-methoxy-1-methylethyl, 1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl, 1-fluoro-1-methylethyl, hydroxymethyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2-carboxyethyl, 2-methylcarbamoyl, 2-carbamoyl, or 4-aminobutyl.

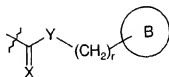
8. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein  $\text{R}_4$  is tert-butyl, iso-butyl, benzyl, isopropyl or methyl.

9. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ring A is optionally substituted 1-pyrrolidinyl, piperidin-1-yl, 1-piperazinyl, hexahydro-1-pyridazinyl, morpholin-4-yl, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazin-4-yl, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazin-4-yl 1-oxide, tetrahydro-1,4-thiazin-4-yl 1,1-dioxide, hexahydroazepino, thiomorpholino, diazepino, thiazolidinyl or octahydroazochino.



10. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ring A is piperidin-1-yl or 1-piperazin-4-yl.

11. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein the grouping

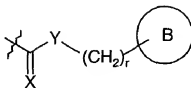


present in compounds(I) is attached to a ring carbon atom or a second ring nitrogen atom of ring A.

12. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein r is 0 or 1.

13. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein ring B is optionally substituted phenyl, 2-, 3- or 4-pyridyl, 9H-fluoren-9-yl, naphthyl, or 4-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl.

14. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein in the grouping



present in compounds(I), X is oxygen or sulphur when Y is -NH-, or both X and Y are oxygen.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) A method for the treatment of microbial infections in humans and nonhuman mammals, which comprises administering to a subject suffering such infection an antimicrobially effective dose of a compound as claimed in claim 1.

18. (Previously Presented) An antimicrobial composition comprising a compound as claimed in claim 1 together with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier.

19. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 5 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclohexylmethyl or cyclohexylethyl

20. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is:

optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl or cycloalkyl;

phenyl (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, phenyl (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl)- or phenyl (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the phenyl ring;

cycloalkyl (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, cycloalkyl (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl)- or cycloalkyl (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the cycloalkyl ring;

heterocyclyl (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl)-, heterocyclyl (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl)- or heterocyclyl (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl)- optionally substituted in the heterocyclyl ring; or

CH<sub>3</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>- or CH<sub>3</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>S(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>q</sub>-, wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3 and q is 1, 2 or 3.

21. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is methyl, ethyl, n-or iso-propyl, n-or iso-butyl, n-pentyl, iso-pentyl 3- methyl-but-1-yl, n-hexyl, n-heptyl, n-octyl, methylsulfanylethyl, ethylsulfanylmethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 2-ethoxymethyl, 3- hydroxypropyl, allyl, 3-phenylprop-3-en-1-yl, prop-2-yn-1-yl, 3- phenylprop-2-yn-1-yl, 3-(2-chlorophenyl)prop-2-yn-1-yl, but-2-yn-1-yl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclopentylethyl, cyclopentylpropyl, cyclohexylmethyl, cyclohexylethyl, cyclohexylpropyl, furan-2-ylmethyl, furan-3-methyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl, piperidinylmethyl, phenylpropyl, 4- chlorophenylpropyl, 4-methylphenylpropyl, 4-methoxyphenylpropyl, benzyl, 4-chlorobenzyl, 4-methylbenzyl, or 4-methoxybenzyl.

22. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R<sub>2</sub> is (C<sub>1</sub>- C<sub>6</sub>) alkyl-, cycloalkylmethyl-, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl-S-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl-, or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>)alkyl-O-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>) alkyl-.